

Title: **Livelihoods development for MPA affected communities - a case study of Cu Lao Cham**

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Abstract: One of the most significant obstacles in the implementation of marine protected areas (MPA's) in developing countries is the development of alternative livelihood strategies for local people affected by a new MPA. This presentation will discuss results from livelihoods interventions around one marine protected area case study in Vietnam, the Cu Lao Cham MPA in Quang Nam Province. The Cu Lao Cham MPA project commenced in October 2003 and the MPA was formally established in December 2005. The population of around 3000 people is concentrated on the largest island in the Cham Islands group, with around 80% of the population dependant on fishing. The island's limited size, restrictions on forest use, and its military importance limit land availability for expansion of agricultural or urban development. The Islands' people, fishing seasons and tourism are also impacted by the typhoon season which can limit boat transport between Cu Lao Cham and the mainland for long periods. Since late 2005, the MPA project and MPA Authority's operations have focused strongly on community alternative livelihood activities. Development of the MPA zoning plan involved careful documentation of different fishing activities undertaken in the proposed core protection zones, and this information has been used to identify specific households undertaking those fishing activities for targeting by livelihood programs. This presentation will examine the history and processes involved with these livelihood interventions, focusing on the key learning outcomes from these experiences, and their implications for future management options at Cu Lao Cham.